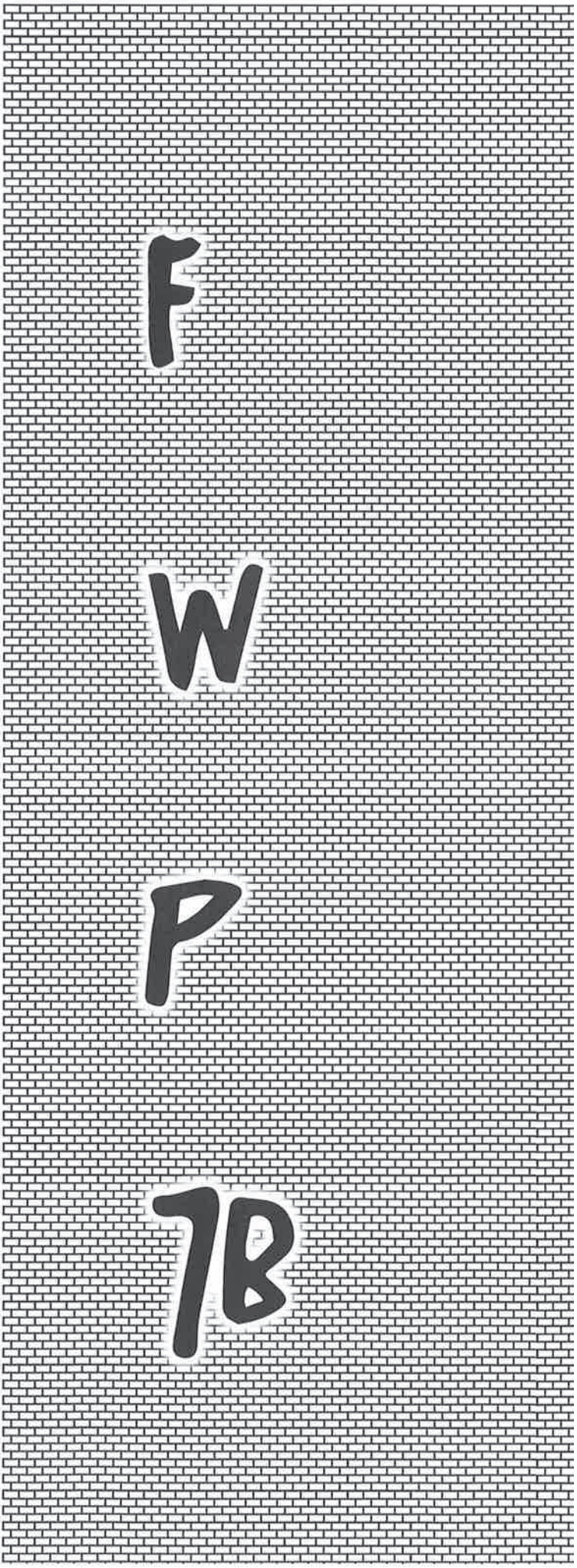
F
W
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- B.c. Miller's

- Neu Deutsche Welle

- Carducci list...

- Joe Carducci's German List.

One intriguing part of the appendix to "Rock and the Pop Narcotic" is a list of 29 German 45's Systematic was selling. I thought it would be fun to go through these.

Carducci's German List #1

(1) Andreas Dorau "Der lachende papst" EP (1981)

"Sehnsucht nach dem Osten" and "Negermuskeln" were the b-sides.

Joe's review: great eccentric electronic music

My review: sounds like the gravitron at the bottom of the monk's castle, after the Terminator has chased you there.

Carducci's German List #2

(2) Freiwillige Selbstkontrolle, "Herz Aus Stein" EP (1980)

Their name means "Freewill Self-control" and they came from Munchen, and even they thought their name was too long, so they abbreviated it to "F.S.K."

This band recorded for the famous Zick Zack label, and they are a kick ass minimalist punk band a la Wire.

Joe called their EP a *minimalist grab bag*

I would call this a two chord yelling song with industrial noises, that keeps coming back to the German "1-2-3-4".

Carducci's German List #3

Grauzone "Moskau" EP
(1980)

good electronic dance music, marginally danceable

Grauzone were a Swiss band which you should check out on your own time. If you were a party to '00s PDX death cult dances at Dunes or warming up to a Glass Candy show, you might hear them in between ESG and Pink Section. The "God damn Poland" line was funny to cokeheads but Switzerland was neutral, baby. This song isn't on the EP but sounds like it and after seeing people marginally dance to it so many times I want it remembered, and long forgotten.

Carducci's German List: #4

Xmal Deutchland:
Großstadtindianer Indianer
EP (81, ZickZack)

Cool Heavy Pounding Stuff

Xmal (pronounced "small" by Portlanders) is the 2nd most famous band on this list. Grauzone being the 3rd. (The first you can wait for, if you don't have the book.)

Like Grauzone they have a dancefloor hit, and their albums were popular, but people were unsure how to pronounce their name, so it wasn't dropped much. (Siouxsie and the Banshees was likewise hard to pronounce!)

"Xmal" is what you call a sword in Georgian. German and Georgian: my blood rises. An all girl band from Hamburg, crossing Banshees with Hawkwind?

Carducci's German List #5

Nachnedkilche Wehrpflichetige: Hundert Mann +4 EP

freejazz experimentiam

Nobody will like this: it's yelling plus freejazz, and the creators should be hunted down, because they suck.

Carducci's German List #6

Freiwillige Selbetkontrolle: "Im Westen Nix Neues " EP (1981)

wildly variable

Making their second appearance on our list is FSK, who went on list. They came in strong with their first EP, and the "Stürmer" proved they one of ZickZack's finest NDW bands.

Not all seven tracks are on youtube, but I'll give you "Tagessshau", which amuses me because of my friend Tage. It has a ticky-drum machine and multiple voices: some calm, some yelling, and is constantly bisected with futuristic sound effects.

Carducci's German List #7

Aus Lauter Liebe:
"Pingelig"/"Das Tor zur Welt"
7" (1981)

minimal punk/syntho weirdness

Hard to expand on Carducci's review here. Except to accentuate the "weird" part. The a-side has creepy found sounds and a stop start bass groove, and vocals that sound buried under a mountain.

Carducci's German List #8

Front George: "Polaroid" EP
(1981)

great with tight electrono weirdness

This was sampled a lot in the '00s. It's a hundred dollar gem, and I've heard it a million miller times out dancing.

Carducci's German List #9

Saal 2: "Angst Vorm Tanzen" EP (1980)

imaginative minimal electronics

Hamburg's Saal 2 were one of the earliest ZickZack bands, and made a variety of no-wave and electronic science fiction music. On "Angst vorm Tanzen" their synth tones sound exactly like the 8-bit music you'll remember for growing up playing Nintendo. Is that a plus or a minus? For me it's a minus, but the galloping beats and dada strokes are a plus.

Carducci's German List #10

Radierer: "Angriff Auf Schlaraffenland" EP (1980)

some fun electropop

This is a cool one. They've got a real drummer, guitar, and a variety of synth sounds, from blinky-blinks to white noise. Very Rough Trade. They were from Limburg, and this was the 12th release on ZickZack.

Carducci's German List #11:

Phonophobia: Avantgarage EP (1980)

Bargain basement expressionism

This is a spooky one. "Der Hit" goes "wha wha wha wha" and builds over a hi-hat, while someone's Id mutters in English, "What could you possibly want from meeeee."

Carducci's German List #12

3.2 [Donald Fuck] "Der Spielverderber" 7"

low rent avant musical carpentry

This one's a mystery I've never heard.

[ZickZack, and as of 11/27/23. still unheard to my ears as well.-w]

Carducci's German List #**13** and #**14**:

Palais Schaumburg "Kinder Tod" bw "Telefon" 7"

odd electropop

"Rote Lichter" bw "Mach mich glücklich wie nie" 7"

even more odd electropop

PALAIS SCHAUMBURG are a cult band from Hamburg with many releases. Both of these singles came out on the ZickZack label in '80/'81. They sound a bit like early Devo, with deconstructed funk, chanting, and angular guitar and synth. "Kinder Tod" means "Death Child" and has a bizarre video where the band changes gender, and someone writhes in a vinyl bag!

Carducci's German List **#15**

Kosmonautentraum: Rache! EP (1981)

avant electronics w/ a dash of funk

Here's another wild one from the ZickZack label. From Hannover, this band played No Wave from outer space. "Rache!" ("Revenge") has three untitled assaults recorded live.

Carducci's German List **#16**

Ede Und Die Zimmermänner: "Eva, Jürgen und Max" EP (1980)

die skankenmusik

Die, skankenmusik! This is ska from Hamburg. I hate ska, but it was an early ZickZack release so I'm posting it.

Carducci's German List #**17**

Schön: "Tanz Doch" EP (1980)

Psychedelic electronic music

Schön ("beautiful") came from Schleswig-Holstein, the northernmost province of Germany, and made some very cool music that harkens back to late '60s freakbeat in melody, and early '80s DIY in clattering rhythms and spacey keyboards. They made an album and three 7"s, of which this EP was their first.

Carducci's German List #**18**

Aus Lauter Liebe: "Ein Herz und Eine Krone" bw "Hot Lover" 7" (1980)

Garage Psychedelia

You may remember "Pingelig" being #7 on this list. Well, this was their first single. Except it's not on youtube. So, as a ringer, here's their track from 1981's "Lieber Zuviel Als Zuwenig: ZickZack Sommerhits" compilation LP.

Carducci's German List #19

Abwärts: "Roboter in der Nacht" bw "Für Mutti" 7" (1981)

non too descript neu rock

Hamburg's Abwärts ("Downwards") are one of Germany's better known art punk bands. They sound kind of like early Ex or The Rondos being attacked by robots.

Carducci's German List #20

Abwärts: "Computerstaat" EP (1980)

Some interesting cabaret feel

Their debut EP was the 2nd release on ZickZack and is famous for the title track, a classic of German art-punk. "Japan" is troglodyte reggae, "Moon of Alabama" is the Kurt Weill number done as pop-punk. The chaotic "Wir Warten" has some amazing toilet fuzz sounds, and "Nach Haus" is a downbeat "Pink Flag" style clang and bang.

Carducci's German List #21

Die Zimmermänner: "Ein halbes Jahr" bw "Kultur" 7" (1981)

Wir es Ede?

Hamburg's ska heroes are back, without their girl singer, Ede. Carducci wondered where she went, and I've never been able to find out. (Maybe she went to Jamaica.) I WANT to say I hate this, because it's ska, but it has a great production and keyboard sounds that remind me of Manchester's New Hormones scene. The title means, "A Half Year".

Carducci's German List #22

Katastrophenetheorie: "Einstand" EP (1980)

low key avant noise music

Another one on my want list. I've never been able to find it. It was their only record.

[I've heard this now, and it's fairly compelling – w]

Carducci's German List #23

Wirtschaftswunder:
"Television" b/w "Kommisar"
7" (1980)

*fast pop w/ some
electronics*

The name of this band means "Economic Miracle" and they were from Limburg, in the state of Hesse. They went on to be quite prolific, and when we get to the album section of the list, we'll be hearing more from them.

Carducci's German List #24

Geisterfahrer: "Geisterfahrer"
EP (1980)

Heavy experimental rock

One of the big names on Hamburg's industrial-punk scene was "Ghost Driver", and their debut came out on ZickZack. The lead song has a little two chord riff and a LOT of Pere Ubu-like noise going on.

Carducci's German List #25

Brausepöter: "Liebe, Glück, Zufriedenheit" b/w "Irgendwie muss ich was tun" 7" (1980)

Good uptempo pop rock

One of my favorite obscurities on this list is the sole single by Brausepöter. They came from the small town of Rietberg, in Westphalia, and they released two sides of brisk, arty powerpop on ZickZack.

Carducci's German List #26

Andy Giorbino: "Kredit" EP (1980)

experimental electropop

Giorbino was the guitarist in Geisterfahrer, and made a pile of solo records which sound kind of like Tuxedomoon.

Carducci's German List #27

Andy Giorbino: "Ich Stolpere zu dir" b/w "Banane, Zitrone" +flexi (1981)

This single finds Giorbino in one of NDW's signature moods: there's a bombing raid or meltdown and everyone is being ordered to evacuate!

Carducci's German List **#28**

Korpus Kristi: "Suspended" b/w "City of the Blue Eggs" (1981)

real cool slow dreary avant rock

From Limburg, Korpus Kristi were a rabid deathrock crew.

Carducci's German List **#29**

Einstürzende Neubauten: "Kalte Sterne" 2xEP (1981)

Electrockensturm

The climax of our list is the 2nd vinyl release from the most famous of German NDW bands, "Collapsing New Buildings". "Cold Star" takes the rhythm from Gang of Four's "Anthrax" and covers it with a barrage of ghastly, haunting noise.

It's been fun going through this list, which you can find in the appendix of "Rock and the Pop Narcotic". It's a small sampling of the records his company SYSTEMATIC was distributing. I hope it gave you Tyrants an idea of the variety of Germany's enormous New Wave scene, and an appreciation for the distributors who brought their records to our shores.

Working on an NDW radio broadcast for Wade T. Oberlin's show on KSER. Thinking it should start off punkier, and get funkier, and wind up industrial. LIKE THE EVOLUTION OF MAN.

[this happened... maybe agh-ain?]

Abwarts "Computerstaat" would make a good opener.

[(it did.)]

Then something by Geisterfahrer. The band's Matthias Schuster became a prolific producer.

[thx, B.c. – w]

[samples of all recordings now found and mixed on the Mr. Flap Jaw show, ep. 5]

faux

wood

paneling

https://

archive.org

/details

/mrflapjaw004

spring 2025

B.

C.

MILLER'S

catdog / NDW mix